

## SPEECH OF CASSIUS M. CLAY.

Delivered in a mass meeting of a portion of the citizens of the 8th Congressional District, on Saturday the 30th day of December, 1843, at the White Sulphur Springs, in Scott County, Kentucky, in Reply to Col. R. M. Johnson, and others.

Mr. C. M. CLAY rose to resolutions making the declaration, that the annexation of Texas to the United States is contrary to the laws of nations, and just cause of war on the part of Mexico.

## MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW-CITIZENS:

In presenting the resolutions which I have offered as a substitute for those reported by a majority of your committee, I do not hope to be more successful here, than I have been in the committee itself. This place of meeting, and presiding officer, (Col. R. M. Johnson,) and the audience who favor me with a hearing, all forbid any expectation on my part, of carrying the substitute. But I rejoice, humble as I may be in ability, unknown to fame, and of no consideration among men, that association with your name, in this day's deliberations, will give me a factitious importance, which will recommend what I shall say to a hearing from the people of the United States. My opinions, tho' of little intrinsic value, may excite the minds of my countrymen to reflection, and then after mature consideration, I dare venture the assertion, that the position I have this day taken will be maintained in practice, and vindicated at last by a recognition of those principles, which it is the province of history to enforce and consecrate in the affections of mankind.

Regarding the question at issue as second only to those which have forever illustrated the year 1776, I shall speak with that freedom which I inherit as my birth-right, and which I so much desire to transmit unimpaired to posterity. Though yet young, I am old enough to know, from sad experience, what history in such melancholy strains has uttered in vain into the deaf ears of men: that the best counsel is far from being always the most acceptable. When the storm-cast vessel is threatened with wreck, the man who would save her by throwing overboard the boxes of gold and other things of more cherished endearment, is hardly heard, whilst the who maintains that all is safe, is too often trusted till both life and treasure are irretrievably lost. He who from good motives gives even bad advice, is entitled at least to just forbearance; whilst the man who advances the best of counsel for selfish purposes deserves no consideration for his services.

Those gentlemen who would annex Texas to the Union, and hurry us blindfold down this precipice of ruin and dishonor, have here in these slave States at least, popular prejudice in their favor.—On one side are honor, power, wealth, and easy access to fame; on the other side, denunciation, banishment, poverty, and obscurity threaten. If I then speak freely the truth, when you, my countrymen are to reap all the fruits of sacrifice, no man can say that I ask too much, when I pray you to hear me with a patience, becoming the solemnity of the occasion.

First of all then, I protest against this appeal to our sympathies in behalf of Texas, and these unjust denunciations of Mexico as foreign to the true issue, and eminently calculated to lead us into error.—Though truly and with sorrow he said, of Anglo-Saxon blood, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, in the language of gentlemen, I ask you, what claims of sympathy has Texas on the people of the U. States? Enjoying all the blessings which the Constitution guarantees to her people, with all the offices of honor and profit open to the humblest citizen; with an unoccupied domain extending to the distant Pacific, like our first parents going out from Eden, 'in the world before them where to choose'; in any clime, a home— they voluntarily banished themselves from their native country, disavowed the glorious principles of the American Declaration of the rights of men, renounced the inestimable privileges of the Federal Constitution which was their inheritance, and forgetful of all the ties of common blood, language, and home, they became the fellow subjects with a half barbarian people, of a distant Spanish Prince. Yes, without becoming the advocate of Santa Anna, whom we have heard denounced as a tyrant and traitor, for purposes of prejudicing the cause which I vindicate; trusting to indelible truth and avenging history, I challenge a comparison between Texas and Mexico. The Mexican people, inspired by that Declaration of American Independence, which recanted Texas had renounced, in 1821, vindicated by a glorious revolution her title to independence of the Spanish monarchy, and illustrated in act, the postulate taught by our Revolutionary heroes, that a people cannot of right be governed without their own consent. In 1824, Mexico, following the example of the United States and G. Britain, who in 1820 had declared the slave trade piracy and punishable with death, prohibited in the language of Judge Story, this 'infernal traffic.' In 1829, once more unlike Texas, she made it part of her constitution that no person born after the promulgation of the same, in the several provinces should be held a slave. Again in 1829, this much abused Mexico declared that slavery was extinguished in the Republic, and elevating the dread standard of 'God and Liberty' she called upon the sons of freedom by arms to vindicate this immortal decree. And where now, throughout this vast empire, did this glad note of liberty fail to receive a willing response? Alas! for the recalcitrant Saxon, Texas, the descendants of Washington, and Jefferson and Adams, and Franklin—Texas, who had received from a parental government a gratuitous fee simple in the finest soil on earth, exempt from taxation for ten years, and without other sacrifice, save allegiance to the government and to the Catholic religion which she had most solemnly sworn to yield—Texas was the first to raise the black flag of 'slavery and no emancipation'—aye, Texas was the

## LIBERTY STANDARD.

"Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Leviticus, 25: 10.

VOL. III.

HALLOWELL, MAINE, THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1844.

NO. 31.

only people who dared to brave the indignation of mankind by resisting that liberty which hath made the nineteenth century forever memorable in the annals of the world. And yet, Santa Anna is a most horrible despot, and much injured and oppressed Texas is the defender of liberty! Santa Anna who has civilized the barbarian and revolutionary spirit of his people—who has suppressed the daring bands of robbers, who infest the high ways, making life unsafe, property insecure, and commerce impracticable—who has encouraged education and the useful arts—who has caused to be recognized the principles of equal rights and representative government—who, in the midst of the embarrassments of the world, and the exhaustion, arising from revolutionary and civil wars, which have especially harassed his own country has preserved the Mexican faith inviolate; whose many gallant deeds in war and peace, have by the almost unanimous acclamation of the people, again and again elevated him to the Presidency of the Republic, Santa Anna, who has often liberated American citizens, under circumstances which induced England to send them into hopeless exile—Santa Anna is an odious tyrant, and Texas, renegades from the land and religion of their father—Texas, the ingrates to their adopted and fostering country—Texas, the promulgators of slavery—Texas, the repudiators of their debts, and violators of public faith—Texas is so lovely in the eyes of gentlemen, that we must take her to our embrace, although we fall with her into one common grave! But in truth we have nothing to do with the Republics of Texas and Mexico: whether they be the same or two independent nations is to us a matter of no concern. We have no evidence that she seeks alliance even if we were disposed to grant it. I am no propagandist—I am satisfied to maintain the principles, the independence and the honor of my own country. The same impulse which moves me to repel foreign interference and to defend my own rights, constrains me also to keep aloof from, and respect the peculiar organization which other nations have deemed most suitable to secure their rights.

I contend, then, in the language of the first resolution, that the annexation of Texas to the United States is contrary to the laws of Nations, and just cause of war on the part of Mexico. The recognition of the Independence of Texas by the United States, may or may not have been a sufficient cause of war, it remained with Mexico to vindicate her injured honor, or to pocket the injury or insult, as to her seemed best, relying upon her own capability of maintaining the integrity of her empire. But when the United States, not confiding herself to just, or it may be unjust sympathy, not restrained to an opinion that Texas is, or ought of right to be, an independent people, makes herself an active and principal party, by taking hold of the province in controversy, thus forever making it impossible for Mexico to recover the country which up to that time was but partially or temporarily in her view alienated from her; then I say that Mexico has not only just cause of war, but that she should be disgraced in the eyes of all gallant Nations if she did not use her every power for the vindication of her injured honor and violated territory. Learned authority has been quoted here with the vain expectation of persuading us that Mexico has no cause of grievance in the event supposed. I dare not insult common sense by acquiescence in such mysterious jurisprudential jargon as this.—I appeal to the reason, to the instincts, the consciences of men, for the establishment of the law of nature, upon which the laws of nations are, or ought to be based.—What sir, have we a solemn treaty of amity with Mexico, to say nothing at present of natural right? And is it the part of friendship to seize with a rapacious hand a portion of the territory which she still claims, and appropriate it to ourselves? Do not these learned jurists know that a breach of treaty is contrary to the laws of nations, as laid down by all the writers upon that most obscure science, and without reparation, just cause of war? And what reparation could we make whilst we continue to hold the price of blood and violated faith? What war was more unjust than that carried on by the United States against the Florida Indians? Suppose at some time after its commencement Mexico had agreed with the Indians that they were, as they declared themselves to be, free and independent; and suppose Mexico had subsequently thereto thus addressed us—'You have expended forty millions of dollars; you have lost a white man for every Indian slain in battle; you have called to your aid blood hounds in vain; to the horror of all christendom, for eight years you have with the whole force of the empire carried on a hopeless war of recovery, it is time hostilities should cease; we will take the Floridas ourselves, peaceably if we can, forcibly if we must.'—I shall not stop to ask whether we should have deemed this a just cause of war, or to say what would have been our laconic reply. Cases have arisen, and will doubtless again arise, when a people are struggling to throw off an unjust and tyrannical rule, and will again justify a virtuous nation even when in alliance with the tyrant in sympathizing with, and recognizing the independence of the oppressed. Here the rectitude of the motive and just cause of the injured cure and sanctify the breach of the treaty of amity. But when Texas is the wrong doer and Mexico the injured party; here, where, save allusion to the disingenuous motives, not even studiously disguised, but shameless and openly avowed rapacity, impel us to the breach of faith and the disregard of

natural right: she will not only, and ought not only to declare war against us, but she will justly claim the universal sympathy and aid of nations to enable her to vindicate her desecrated soil and insulted sovereignty.

The wrongs of Mexico, the wishes of Texas, the armed arbitrament of other nations aside, the case is still far from being stripped of its embarrassments. It matters not so much what other men may think of ourselves—happy, happy indeed are they who condemn not themselves.—If we had our own consent, and also the consent of the North to this annexation, still I deem it questionable whether Texas as a free State, could constitutionally be admitted into this Union. I do not deny that the necessity of the case, the dread alternatives of war, might not, under the treaty-making power, compel us to cede away or to acquire territory. Whether the provinces of Louisiana and Florida were acquired constitutionally or not I shall not at this late day undertake to question. They were admitted, however, by the sovereign proprietor's consent, one of them lying around the mouth of the Mississippi river, threatened with earnest embarrassment the trade of the whole great valley of the west: no breach of violated national faith was insinuated, no disastrous wars threatened; and yet able jurists and patriotic statesmen, denied the constitutionality of acquisition, and threatened its ratification with resistance and dissolution.

But where is the necessity for the annexation of Texas—even if she desired it—even if Mexico did not denounce war—even if there was no violation of national faith, even if she was not a slave State—where, I ask, is that overwhelming necessity which generates a power not given by the Constitution nor anticipated by its authors? It is not territory that we want; our wide unoccupied domain stretches from the Mississippi to the far Pacific; we have already more land than we are able to defend from savage incursion or British usurpation. 'We want more slave States to offset the fanatical free States.' Let the world hear it; you admit, sir, that we want Texas to extend slavery men.—Unutterable emotions agitate my bosom: I ask the charter of my liberty—of your liberty: I call upon the Declaration of American Independence upon which it is founded: I invoke the spirit of freedom which in the day of suffering and threatened despair inspired its utterance, as solemn protests against this most unholy scheme. Shall we not blush to draw the veil which has hardly shielded us from the contempt and loathing of mankind for proclaiming liberty and practicing servitude? Shall we any longer gull them by the hypocritical plea of necessity, the sole defence of tyrants? Anew, we incur the guilt of slavery, and are ready to do battle even unto death for its extension—then expunge from your annals the declaration of rights—repeal the law of '20, which makes the slave trade piracy—down with the gibbet and bind the laurel upon the brow of the suspended culprit—withdraw your fleet from the coast of Africa—tell Great Britain and the world that you have been enacting a solemn farce, when you talk so loudly of liberty—that tyranny is the best government, and slavery the truest liberty—that now at last you begin to be in earnest—fifty years constraint wears the impassable muscles of the most wooden face—you give it up—now you hold slavery sacred at home, and like the oriental prophet of Medina, you are ready to propagate your faith by fire and sword throughout the world—that henceforth and forever your watchword shall be 'slavery or death.' I care not for the precedents of the past, I DECLARE THAT THERE IS NO POWER IN THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION BY WHICH A SLAVE STATE CAN BE ADMITTED INTO THIS UNION. Slavery cannot exist by the law of nature: IT CANNOT EXIST BY ACT OF CONGRESS.—Slavery did exist by the laws of the sovereign States, in the formation of the Constitution, they thus far retained their sovereignty, denying it to that extent to the creature of their united will,—for if they vested in congress the power to make a slave then they at the same time yielded a power to unmake him. If then the Congress can make a slave State, they can unmake a slave State; and if she has that power it is her bounden duty not to add new slave States to the Union, but to purge it immediately of this fatal disease which threatens death to the liberties of the whole country. [Hear, hear, Ed.]

They who contend, then, for the admission of the slave State of Texas, are handling a two edged sword, it cuts both ways, the assumption of such a power must therefore be abandoned at once and forever. The contemptible jargon, that slavery already existing in Texas or other territory, acquired by conquest, purchase, or voluntary cession, by municipal law Congress may form them into slave States and admit them into the Union, is unworthy of consideration; it involves the absurdity of having the power to do through an agent or indirectly, that which they cannot do directly or of themselves.—Nothing but sovereign power can make a slave; the moment a State, once having been independent unites itself with this Union, at that moment its sovereignty is lost, and with it falls slavery at the same time. If the State about to be admitted was originally a part of the territory of the United States, it never had any sovereignty, and of course never could have made a slave.

I repeat once more, that independent of Art. 5th, of the amendments to the constitution, slavery cannot exist by act of Congress—but when we there find the ex-

press language 'no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law,' all subterfuge is at an end—and the learned and unlearned must unite in one voice, there is no power under Heaven, whilst the Constitution remains inviolate, by which Texas, as a slave State, can be admitted into this Union. When gentlemen are driven from all their strong holds, having no ground to stand upon in making out a case of necessity, they at last come out with the old bugbear, which has been so often paraded up and down with tin pans beating and cows' horns blowing, whenever any party endeavours to be achieved, that it has ceased to attract even the passing boys who are accustomed to shout after such unfamiliar show—yes England is the monster they would get at—and they are surprised when this old enemy is in the field, that a military man like myself should be the last to come to the rescue.

Although in the eyes of some it be treason to say a kind or just thing about this haughty power, the brave cannot at last but honor the brave. I scorn to compliment myself indirectly when I say that the greatest warriors are in the main the staunchest friends of peace; the man who intends to run away, cares not how soon the battle may come on, but he who has determined to die or conquer, will be slow in seeking the fight. Scott and Wellington are said to resist the warlike spirit of their people; and the correspondence of Scott and the Governor-general of New Brunswick during the difficulties on the Maine border is an honor to them and to their respective nations. In a bad cause a woman may put me to flight, but plant me upon the right, and I am proud to say, that the man does not live whom I dare not look in the face. If we conquered in the war of Independence, it was not because of our physical strength; with Lord Chatham, I say that in a good cause England could have crushed America to atoms. It was the consciousness of justice which nerved our people in the hour of trial. Yes, it was the right in which we conquered; it was the right that called the gallant of all lands to our standard; it was the right which made the veteran British Lion, who had traversed the world unscathed, crouch in dishonor before the unfledged bird of Jove. It was the glorious principles of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness inscribed on our banners, which like the letters of fire on the Babylonian walls, struck terror into the enemies of our country. But in this war which you are madly projecting, this inspiring banner will not be borne, alas! by us, but by them. Go, tell the six hundred thousand free laborers of my gallant State before they leave home, wife, children and friends, before they shoulder their musket and march afar to shed on the plains of Texas their blood for the extension of slavery, to ask themselves what they have to gain! When they lie bleeding and dying on the burning sands of a foreign country or writhing in the deadly grasp of the terrible epidemics of the swamps of Florida and Louisiana, what maddening reflections will then await them—the blood of our sires has been spent in vain, the Constitution has been violated, the Union has been dissolved, our homes have been desolate, our wives and children have become outcasts and beggars, our country is lost,—all lovely nature fades fast from our dim reluctant eyes, we sink unwept into dishonored graves accused of God and man; if our cause triumphs, the sighs and tears of millions enslaved, will mar the fruits of victory; but if it fail, as seemingly it must, then have the chains which we have forged for others, become the heritage of our posterity forever.

No, Mr. President, it cannot be. If the worst comes to the worst and the union shall be dissolved, I for one will join my destiny with the North. Here in Kentucky, my mother earth, I shall stand unmoved by danger, unmoved by denunciation, a living sacrifice for her best prosperity, I shall not fear death itself if she may but live. But if mad counsels shall press her on to ruin, and she shall prefer destruction to the relinquishment of her idols, then, and not till then, taking up my household gods, an unwilling exile, I shall in other lands, seek that liberty which was hopeless in my native home.—I would to God, that my voice could this day reach every log cabin in this wide and lovely land; then indeed, would I feel assured that this dread alternative could never happen; but my words are feebly echoed from these walls, and the press is sealed like the apocalyptic books, which human power cannot open, and darkness broods over the land once more, till God himself shall say let there be light!

[REMAINDER NEXT WEEK.]

## MASS. LIBERTY CONVENTION.

This large and able convention, to which we referred last week, was held Feb. 14th and 15th, the day sessions in the Tremont Temple, the first evening in Faneuil Hall, and the second in the State House, Henry B. Stanton, Esq., in the chair. Samuel E. Sewall was nominated for Gov., and William Jackson for Lt. Gov.

John G. Whittier and Joel Hayden were chosen electors at large. The convention is said to have been the most influential one ever held in the state. Addresses were made by Gen. Appleton of Me., Alvan Stewart of N. Y., H. H. Garnett of N. Y., S. P. Andrews of Texas, the Clarks, and others. Some of their resolutions follow:

Whereas, A popular impression prevails, that by the 3d clause of the 2d section of the 2d article of the Constitution of the United States, the free States are required to restore fugitive slaves, or, at least, to permit their recapture by those who claim them as property, and that the said clause

was the result of a compromise or agreement to that effect, between the northern and southern members of the Convention, which framed the Constitution; and, whereas, in consequence of such impression, the Constitution is, by many, held to be a proslavery document and the principle of slavery the acknowledged law of the Union; and Whereas, in consequence of such belief, the attachment of many to the Union and the Government is greatly weakened and gradually destroyed, and others are hindered in the conservative exercise of their political rights, and whereas, the clause in question finds ample and legitimate scope for its explication in the cases of servants and laborers under contract, indentured apprentices, 'redemptioners,' and others bound by legal obligation to service or labor; and Whereas, the said popular impression has been assumed as true and without contest or discussion made the basis of judicial decision, (which, however, must be regarded as having but slight weight as legal authority until fundamental investigation shall have been instituted and completed in the same tribunals.) Therefore

1. Resolved, That the above mentioned construction of the said clause of the Constitution, is in our full belief, false and erroneous,—that it has no warrant either in the facts of history or in the meaning of the terms; that there is not the slightest testimony that this clause was the result of any promise or condition insisted upon by any party to the Constitution, but abundant evidence to the contrary; and that as well the known character of many of the members of the Convention, as the history of the transaction itself, forbid the belief that they ever intended to sanction the principle of property in man, or to guarantee, maintain, or protect the system of slavery.

3. Resolved, That we cast back the charge, so frequently made against the Liberty party, that we are trampling on the compromises of the Constitution, believing as we do, that those compromises require the immediate and complete extinction of slavery.

6. Resolved, That we highly honor that noble son of Kentucky, CASSIUS M. CLAY, for his bold and eloquent denunciations of slavery, and his manly testimony in favor of the Liberty Party; and we trust he will soon take the decisive step of emancipating his own slaves, by which he will show himself the worthy coadjutor of that still nobler son of Kentucky, JAMES G. BIRNEY, who relinquished his share of the legitimate property, took his father's slaves as his inheritance, that he might immediately emancipate them as an act of simple justice.

7. Resolved, That the nomination of a professed duellist for President of the U. States, by a large State Convention held which loudly calls on the clergy of this Commonwealth to carry out the reform so well begun by them after the murder of Hamilton, and extended after the murder of Ciley, by preaching against the sin of duelling as murder, and by urging as the only practical remedy for this crime the refusal of all good citizens to vote for a duellist for any office; and we call upon the friends of sound morals in the religious congregations of Massachusetts, to see that this work is done.

8. Resolved, That the fraud now practised upon the North, by representing Henry Clay as the friend of the Protective System, while he is at this hour currying popular favor in the South as an opponent of the principle of protection, is equalled only by that hypocrisy which presents MARTIN VAN BUREN to the northern democracy as a champion of Equal Rights and the largest liberty, while at the South he is boastfully set forth as the Northern man with Southern principles, the most trusty champion of slavery; and that this combined fraud and hypocrisy is but a continuation of the old system by which the people of the free States are divided, humbugged, deceived, debased, trampled on, and undone.

## THE TOWN POWER.

Nothing but inaction, dear brethren, can prevent any town with ten good abolitionists, from carrying their town at the next town meeting, for the Liberty Party, if these 10 men will go to work as though one of their children had been carried off by the Indians to Canada. Just say, this is our stint, to carry our town, and we will do it. And go to work upon a plan to be agreed upon, and it will be the happiest winter of your lives.

If there are but 5 or 6 abolitionists, or 10, 20, 50, or 100 in a town, let them meet and say, we go for the election of the town officers this very year in our town. Then let them see what ammunition they want, and how they shall advance upon the proslavery castles, where the sappers and miners shall be stationed, with a view to the day when they shall storm the citadel.

It is a curious fact in human nature, that let a dozen men say in December—we will elect our ticket next town meeting—the very fact that they have a given object before them will three-fold every man's exertion, and lend an entire new power, feeling and energy to each man engaged in the work. But for a man to work without a stint before him, he says: "I cannot see the length and breadth of the undertaking," and he will go to work as solemn and as stupid as the man who attempts to empty the mill pond with his quart cup. Do brethren, pledge yourselves to conquer your town.

DOMESTIC SUGAR.—The amount of sugar manufactured in the United States in 1841, was about 63,000 tons, 46,500 tons of which were the product of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida, alone. The amount imported from other countries within the same period was 90,500 tons.

## Correspondence.

## LETTER FROM PORTLAND.

MR. WILLEY:

Sir, it is not my purpose to attack the christian character of any man, neither do I wish to hear upon any denomination of Christians; for I believe there are good and bad in all denominations, yet I heartily hope that the churches generally are not so poorly off for christians as some with which I am acquainted. I know a church member who attended the convention at Augusta, who has stated several times since his return, that Gen. Fessenden remarked that he would trample upon the Constitution of these United States, that it was fit for nought else, and he would never be bound by it, so long as there was one clause in favor of slavery in it.

The Gentleman was asked if he were not mistaken in regard to Gen. Fessenden's remarks, he replied that he was not mistaken, that he paid very particular attention, and that he knew positively that he was not mistaken; and that in consequence of these remarks, he came back much less an abolitionist than he went, (altogether unnecessary, for he was no part of an abolitionist when he went; what he is now, I am acquainted with any other fraction than 0-0 that would accurately show.)

I wish to ask the gentleman, if he recollects having heard Gen. Fessenden say that he was opposed to any law, by which he was obliged to assist in riveting the chains of slavery upon any person; that in his opinion, such a law was unconstitutional, and would never bind him; he would trample upon such a law let the consequences be what they might. I would also ask him if he recollects having heard Gen. Fessenden's remarks upon the 2d Sec. 4th Art. of the Constitution. If he paid such marked attention he doubtless recollects that Gen. Fessenden gave as his opinion, that the persons held to service or labor alluded to "the Constitution neither recognises or protects slavery &c." If the gentleman will not admit this, I refer him to his bible, the Eastern Argus. And should he continue to circulate this stuff, I shall mark him in my book in straight letters a LIAR. But any thing for an excuse; (as I am informed) that he gave satisfactory answers to his minister upon the slavery question before being baptised. And now seeing his old party in rather slim footing, he was obliged to go all the way to Augusta to find an excuse for violating his word, and then (pity the sorrows of a poor old man) obliged to manufacture one from whole cloth after all.

A few evenings since we were favored with a visit from Mr. H. S. Gilmore and Milton Clark. The house was crowded to overflowing with anti-slavery church members &c. Mr. Gilmore spoke the first part of the evening, after which Mr. Clark took the stand. His remarks were very pleasing to the audience, who told their joy by frequent bursts of laughter, attended in two or three instances with the clapping of hands. All went very well until the characters of Harry of the West and Matty Van were brought in question. This evidently caused unpleasant feelings in the minds of a majority of the church, who, after the meeting told their displeasure in terms not to be misunderstood. Mr. Clark also spoke of a certain Deacon in the South, who prayed twice a day, whipped his slaves, and carried on; also of Capt. Postlewaitz one of his kidnappers, who was a very religious swearer. (A person who enjoys as much religion as a religious abettor of slavery, and who is as much a christian as a religious slaveholder.) This very sensibly affected our good Deacon, who believes it sacrilege to expose the faults of christians, and who, (poor soul) has so delicate a sense of christianity, that he believes it impossible to worship God in spirit and truth, in a house where people have laughed and clapped their hands, in contemplation of the release of a poor soul from bondage. Fear not good friend, that house has not become so contaminated by laughing and clapping, that God will not be present with all who meet there to glorify and praise him; neither will he who made of one blood all nations of men, who is no respecter of persons, who judges according to the color of deeds instead of skin, condemn any one for expressing their feelings in his house whether of joy or of grief. L. Y. S.

## LIBERTY DISCUSSION!

'How did you like the debate the other evening?'

'Well, I don't know—I really thought uncle Ephe. would do better than he did;—you, that Doctor's tongue is hung in the middle, isn't it?'

'Ha—ha! yes, Dr. — is a good speaker—he was very fair and candid too.'

'Yes, and uncle Ephe. was pretty well 'used up';—left him with scarce a word to say.'

'Well, no wonder?—what did uncle Ephe's arguments amount to? His whole theme was ridicule of the Liberty press, and leaders of the party.'

'Well, I guess he won't want to court the Dr's acquaintance again in public anyhow.'

The preceding conversation took place between a Whig and Democrat, a few days after a discussion on the merits of the present Liberty Party, in a small village in the far-away county of Piscataway. The disputants were residents of joining towns—the Dr. spoken of, a stern, god-hearted liberty man, and uncle Ephe—a universal appellation—a prominent leader in the democratic ranks.—One beautiful feature in the debate, to those acquainted with the parties, was, that one year since they both tugged at the same collars in the Loco Foco traces, and in fine were doubtless, two as great political cronies as the county afforded.—Now they entered the lists as antagonists, each striving for the mastery, and endeavoring with might and main to sink the other beneath the powerful current of argument.

At the commencement of the discussion Dr. — stated the principles and meas-



ures of the Liberty party—after which, uncle Ephie rose to object. Some of his objections are worthy of notice, as they show the sophistical arguments frequently used by opposers which influence the few upon whom argument, unadulterated, has no force. He said it was the same 'old story' he had heard repeated for the last ten years, and he objected,

1st, 'Because a distinct party is unnecessary to accomplish the objects sought—as this may be done by instruction to candidates in the primary meetings.'

2d, 'Because it is an immoral party—that was, the leaders, Smith and others, preach politics on the Sabbath! The Buffalo resolution, or 'Buffalo Treason' was taken up at considerable length; also, O'Connell's address to the Irish—Bible Politics—Law of 1793—and lastly, Abby Kelly! She was permitted to speak at the Buffalo convention. O, horrible!

The Dr. cut and thrust with remarkable skill and precision, and in a very mild and pleasant manner, tore off uncle's sophistical garb, and laid bare the fallacy of his objections. His arguments were sound, unanswerable and untouched. A candid mind must have been convinced of their truth, if not converted. The discussion continued two evenings, before a respectable audience, and will undoubtedly result in great good to the cause of Liberty in this 'Down East' section. Be assured, sir, we are 'up and doing.'

#### HONOROUS.

Down East, Feb. 1844.

#### THE INTERNAL SLAVE TRADE.

We commend the following paragraphs to the notice of the reader. They carry in their style the marks of reality, and it is as we have every reason to believe, they are fair illustrations of the internal slave trade of this country—if scenes like these are common or frequent in the 'middle passage' between Virginia and Louisiana, the knowledge of them ought to rouse every feeling of pity and indignation of which our hearts are capable, and induce immediate action on the part of the General and State Governments. How inconsistent to legislate against the slave trade on the high seas, and suffer it to be thus carried on, upon our own soil—under the shadow of our national banner—the wings of the American eagle!

When will Christians, and our citizens generally, look these abominations in the face? The extracts below are from the correspondence of an Emancipator. The letter was written from Louisville, Ky. The writer says, 'on the boat, in which he sailed down the river, he heard rough fellows boasting of their abuse of the saucy "niggers." What is American Christianity if it sleeps over sins and woes like these?

"While standing on the wharf to see the town on the opposite side of the river, we heard a great clanking of chains behind us, and, turning our heads, saw a COTTEL OF SLAVES.—They wound their way down the wharf to the steamer Bourbon their chains rattling as they went—a procession of twenty-eight young men, twelve women and two children were not chained. The men were handcuffed in pairs, and the women in groups, by a large chain passing between the lines, from hand-cuff to handcuff, and several individuals wearing an ankle chain also connected with the handcuffed arm. They were clad in coarse clothing, not very clean, and each carried a small bundle of clothes on his arm. The expression of their faces was that of mingled stupidity and sullenness. The splendid steamers even failed to change this expression into one of wonder. They lifted their eyes, indeed, for a moment, to look, but so dull were these windows of the inner man, that I started, 'for soul was wanting there.' I never before felt what it was to chattelize man,—to emulate the image of God—to find conscience and revelation from the helm of the mind and substitute the arbitrary will of a fallible and passionate mortal.

There was one face in the procession that was the picture of utter and hopeless despair. It was the face of a middle-aged man walking between her two children. In her left hand she carried her little bundle of clothes, and clasped with her right the hand of a little boy of four years old, who trotted by her side. A little girl of six walked at her left holding on to her mother's dress.—The mother's eyes were red and swollen with weeping, and she bore on her cheek the unhealed cut of a whip. She did not look once at the boat that followed in the procession with downcast eyes. Three men with large canes drove them on. I must confess that the hot tears found their way to my eyes as I gazed. My throat was full so that I could not speak, and I am sure that my heart was. Some of the by-standers said it was a drove for the New Orleans market.

After walking up and down the wharf for a time I stepped on the Bourbon and went aft on the lower deck to see the coffee once more. They had seated themselves on their little bundles as conveniently as their chains would permit them. The mother who had so excited my interest was giving a cup of water to a fine looking negro man, one of these heavily manacled, and whom I took to be her husband, for the little boy was seated in his lap, with his head resting on his father's bosom. I stood near for some time looking on at the sad scene, but no one of them raised his eyes to meet mine. While I stood, the boat bell rung—I made the best of my way to the Herschel, and the Bourbon was soon plunging her foaming prow to the great slave mart of the South. God grant that the labors of yourself and coadjutors in the great cause of human rights may soon make the hope within that mother's "bosom dying, revive again."

#### THE HONESTY OF THE POLITICIANS IN RELATION TO THE TWENTY.

##### FIRST RULE.

By the following extract from the speech of Mr. Clingan of North Carolina, upon the 21st rule, the motives of politicians in their present course relative to it will be distinctly understood.

"But many Southern gentlemen say because we have taken this position, we must adhere to it, even though it be wrong to have taken it originally.—They tell us we must never retreat in the face of an enemy. Now, in regard to military tactics, I confess myself to be no better informed than other members generally; but I have always understood that, if a general discovered that a large body of troops whom he has pushed forward, are not able to sustain their position with advantage, he may direct them to be withdrawn. If he has taken a false position, may he not abandon it rather than have his troops cut to pieces? Let us see how this matter stands. We at the South are in no danger. It is popular with us to vote against abolition petitions, and if a man has the boldness to take any other course, he is denounced. But how is it with our allies (troops) at the North? They are hardly pressed on this point. I have been appealed to, personally, by several gentlemen of both political parties, who have hitherto been with us of the South on the question, and who say they will continue to do so if we deem it necessary; but they say they are losing ground; that the friends of the South are giving way, and the abolitionists gaining ground; and they are anxious that we should give up the rule, assuming me that they are prepared to vote with us on all main questions.

Let us now return to our simile of a battle.—Suppose a general had taken a position with his own troops behind a secure breastwork, but had stationed his allies on exposed grounds, who were rapidly falling by the enemy's shot, and could with difficulty sustain themselves. They appeal to the general, and tell him that, if he regards it as important to maintain their position, and considers the ground valuable, they will endeavor to occupy it. He tells them in reply that the ground is worth nothing, and that he ought not to have taken it; but that he will not, once having taken it, retire, but that they must remain there and be cut to pieces. Now, I appeal to my friends at the South, whether it is fair that they should keep our allies in this attitude longer, even if some of them are generous enough to submit to it."

[From the Boston Recorder.]

#### A MISTAKE.

Messrs. Editors:—In your paper of Thursday last, I noticed a letter from your correspondent in Washington, dated January 25th, in which he refers to the "present aspect of the political parties in relation to those who are presented to us as the living statesmen and patriots of the South—leaders in politics and experienced legislators. After mentioning the names of Clay, Calhoun, Van Buren, and Webster, as composing the "bright array," he adds, justly, "These men carry with them the force and power of gigantic intellect, but there radiated from them the mighty moral force of the Christian statesman and patriot? Alas, alas, that the jewels which adorn the diadem of a country's renown, should send downward or reflect inward no clear bright ray of a soul meet for the kingdom of God." After these expressions for the spiritual interests of the nation, I was anticipating an allusion to one who possesses that moral force, of which the above named statesmen are destitute. Instead of this I find the writer advancing—"Since these, the strictly religious portion of the country have no name presented to them for the high and commanding office of Chief Magistrate of the nation on which to rally, it becomes them seriously to consider the respective claims to their confidence, of those names which are called forth by the popular voice." Here is the mistake under which the writer penned his statements. It is not true that the religious portion of the country have no name presented to them for that high office. They have a name, to thousands and thousands of them an endearing name—one whose Christian character is undoubted, and untarnished—one who has the "mighty moral force of the Christian statesman." One who does, and who, "reflect the clear bright ray of a soul meet for the kingdom of God." One who has manifested such meekness for the kingdom of God, by a life of consistent piety, and by deeds of Christian benevolence, and personal sacrifice for the good of his fellow men—I love to mention that name, it is James G. Birney; and I desire that your correspondent may think of it, and may not forget it, in his statement of names for the high office of Chief Magistrate. I desire that he may recognize a name, toward which 60,000 voters have already turned with deep and growing interest, among whom are included some of the most devoted, self-denying and prayerful Christians of the land. Added to these, I trust many thousands more will rejoice to find there is one in whom they can feel confidence, not only in his qualifications as a statesman, but in his devotion to the kingdom of God.

Yours respectfully, D. S. East Abington, Feb. 5, 1844.

[Boston Recorder.]

#### REASONS FOR VOTING THE LIBERTY TICKET.

1. The Slave Power constantly violates and tramples upon the natural and constitutional rights of the people of the U. States.

2. By invading their right to life and personal safety. Senator Preston declared that, "if they could catch an abolitionist at the South they would hang him, despite of the interference of all the governments of the earth, including the Federal Government." There are more than 60,000 Anti-Slavery voters, 3000 of them in Massachusetts, who would not safely pass through their own country, although the U. S. Constitution provides that "citizens of one State shall enjoy all rights and privileges of citizens in the several States." What "right and privilege" can an abolitionist enjoy in South Carolina?

3. By breaking down the right of free speech. We may have power to speak what we will, but if we dare to speak against slavery we are punished for it by lynching in the South and disqualification for any important office throughout the nation.

4. By denying to the people the right to serve God in obedience to his conscience. God commands us to feed the hungry and help such as want help, and be kind. The law of Congress, passed 1793, and now in force, makes such a crime, punishable by a fine of \$500. Mercy is a crime under the rule of slaveholders.

5. By reducing free citizens of the North to Slavery. In Alabama, Florida, and some other parts of the South, colored citizens of the free or any other States are enslaved, in case they will not leave the State or Territory in a certain time. In all the slave States, they are thrown in jail on suspicion of being fugitive slaves, and if they can not prove their freedom, are sold to pay their jail-fees.

6. By throwing free citizens of the North into prison on account of their color only, when they visit ports of the South where they are sometimes left and sold into slavery.

7. By overthrowing the last safeguard of Liberty, the Right of Petition, and, in the only cases where they can be useful, viz: those relating to personal freedom; the right of trial by jury, and privilege of the writ of Habeas Corpus.

8. The people are enormously taxed to pay the expenses of this outrageous tyranny.

9. The North pays at least two-thirds of all duties on imports, and consequently not less than two-thirds of the expenses of a perverted and oppressive government.

10. In 1843, the northern mail routes cleared \$600,000; the southern sunk in the same time \$571,000, so that about one-third of the postage we pay, goes to support the Post Office system of the thrifless South, while at the same time, the mails have repeatedly been broken open and the contents burnt in the public streets for the protection of slavery.

11. Of all the money paid by the people of the North for the support of the government at least three-fifths is expended directly or indirectly for the support of slavery.

12. And while we pay what they squander, their system of compulsory labor is impoverishing the whole country, bringing us into perpetual bankruptcy, making business unsafe, capital insecure, and gains of labor uncertain.

13. The measures of the Slave Power, as well as the principles upon which that power is established, are false and pernicious to the country.

14. The representation of three-fifths of the slave property on the floor of Congress is opposed to every principle of justice and republicanism.

15. The proposition to annex Texas to the Union, and thereby perpetuate the influence unfortunately obtained by the slaveholders, through the three-fifths principle, is consistent with the accustomed madness of slavery, and threatens the destruction of the last relics of liberty.

16. The Liberty Party ask nothing contrary to justice, republicanism, and the Constitution of the United States. They ask for the overthrow of the Slave Power and the abolition of slavery, because it would be safe for the slaveholders, happy for the slave, just and glorious for the country, consistent with the Constitution, and pleasing to God the Judge of all. Reader, if you are a man, a Christian, and a patriot, support the Liberty Party.

PROF. SHEPARD.—We learn that Prof. Shepard, of this city, has been unanimously appointed to the Professorship of Theology in the Theological Seminary at Auburn, New York; which became vacant by the recent death of the venerable Dr. Richards. Dr. White, of New York, Professor in the Theological Seminary of the city of New York, had been previously elected to fill the vacancy; but the friends of that Institution, on learning the appointment, immediately endeavored the Professorship which he filled, and he declined.

We are authorized to say that a tender of the appointment was made to Dr. Pond, of this city, but his deep interest in the welfare of the Institution with which he is now connected, and over which he so ably presides, compelled him, notwithstanding that the salary in the Auburn Seminary is large, and the Institution fully endowed, promptly to decline. [Bangor Gazette.]

THE LUMBER TRADE OF BANGOR.—We learn from a source which can be relied upon, that the amount of sawed lumber and timber shipped from this city last year was as follows:

Boards,	118,000,000 feet.
Timber,	6,000 tons.

A greater amount than has been shipped any preceding year, except the year 1842, when it was about the same.

The amount of clapboards, shingles, staves and other smaller lumber shipped, we have not the means of ascertaining. The value of the exports in the last season does not probably fall short of one and a half millions of dollars.—Bangor Gazette.

## LIBERTY STANDARD

HALLOWELL, MARCH 7, 1844.

"There is but one proper and effectual mode by which the (abolition of slavery) can be accomplished, and that is, by the legitimate authority; AND THIS, SO FAR AS MY SUFFRAGE WILL GO, SHALL NOT BE WANTING.—George Washington.

LIBERTY TICKET, Nominated by the National Convention, May 13, 1841.

FOR PRESIDENT, JAMES G. BIRNEY, Of Michigan.

"Our own slave states, and especially the more southern of them, in which the number of slaves is greater, and in which, of course the sentiment of injustice is stronger than in the more northern ones, are to be placed on the list of decaying communities.

"The question now for the North finally to decide is—shall the slave states draw us down with them and then perish, or shall we, by a decided and consistent exertion of virtuous energy, save ourselves and them from destruction.—James G. Birney.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT, THOMAS MORRIS, Of Ohio.

"I rejoice that the abolition of slavery throughout the civilized world is no longer problematical; it seems to be almost universally conceded that this stupendous fraud upon a portion of the human race is fast drawing to a close, and the great question with us is truly what measures are best suited to accomplish this desirable end in the United States.

"Political action is necessary to produce moral reformation in a nation; and action with us can only be effectually exercised through the ballot box. And surely the ballot box can never be used for a more noble purpose than to restore and secure to every man his inalienable rights.—Thomas Morris.

Democratic Candidate for President, MARTIN VAN BUREN.

"I must go into the Presidential chair, the inflexible and uncompromising opponent of every attempt on the part of Congress to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia against the wishes of the slaveholding states, and also with a determination equally decided to resist the slightest interference with it in the states where it exists.

"It now only remains to add, that no bill conflicting with these views CAN EVER RECEIVE MY CONSTITUTIONAL SANCTION." Mr. Van Buren's Inaugural Address, March 4th, 1837.

Whig Candidate for President, HENRY CLAY.

"I know there is a visionary dogma which holds that negro slaves cannot be the subjects of property. I shall not dwell long upon this speculative abstraction.—That is property which the law declares to be property. Two hundred years have sanctioned and sanctified negro slaves as property."

"If I had been a citizen of Pennsylvania when Franklin's plan (of gradual emancipation) was adopted, I should have voted for it; because, by no possibility could the black race ever gain ascendancy in the State. But if I had been then, or were now a citizen of any of the planting States—the southern or south western States—I should have opposed, and would continue to oppose, any scheme whatever of emancipation, gradual or immediate."

"It is not true, and I REJOICE that it is not true, that either of the two great parties in this country has any design or aim at abolition. I should deeply lament if it were true.—Mr. Clay's speech in the Senate of the United States, February, 7th, 1839.

#### Shall your town be carried for Liberty?

In order to afford you the most effectual means of doing this, we make the following liberal offer, to be continued a short time. We will send the Liberty Standard one year, to new subscribers as follows:

2 copies for	\$3.00
4 "	6.00
5 "	7.00
7 "	10.00
10 "	14.00.

Thus we have put the paper simply at the cost of paper and printing, for the sake of the cause the present year. Club together, procure a quantity, and carry your town for Liberty. Don't delay.

#### Do you see this?

We will send the Liberty Standard to new subscribers from the first of April to the middle of November next for ONE DOLLAR ONLY! Now see your towns supplied.

#### PROFANITY OF HENRY CLAY.

A gentleman in this State, a whig, and once a whig representative to Congress, remarked not very long since, that he "should like Mr. Clay better if he did not swear so profusely, for he would mix it all in with every thing, and swear when there was no need of it whatever." And this man was not himself over conscientious about his language.

This statement was recently made to us on the most undoubted authority, and by the gentleman to whom the above remark was made.

Shall profanity be voted into the presidency of this professedly christian nation?

#### GOOD TESTIMONY.

The best testimony to the value of a paper, is the good it is effecting. The following is from a gentleman in a remote part of the state:

"The Liberty Standard sent to me is read by five or six families, but all say they are not able to pay for a copy. Our Liberty men gain very fast in this town, and would gain faster if I could get them to take the Standard and pay for it."

An intelligent gentleman in another part of the State says: "My paper is circulated extensively in my town, and every man who reads it becomes a Liberty man."

Another man recently stated, that he sent the Standard sometimes to a friend of his who was strongly opposed to the cause, and by reading it occasionally he had become fully converted.

Another had a copy handed him—he was convinced its principles were right, ordered it sent to him regularly, and now he has 10 new liberty voters in his neighborhood.

Such testimony is encouraging to us, and may afford a hint to others. Every neighborhood ought to be furnished with at least one copy. What town will "second the motion" of Freeport?

#### KENNEBEC COUNTY.

Liberty men in this county are requested to notice particularly the doings of the committee of the Ken. Association. They are worthy of our cause and we doubt not will meet the hearty approbation of every liberty man. It is high time that we take hold of this cause in a manner commensurate with its importance. Other parties draw their funds from officeholders and candidates for office; ours must come from the hearts and pockets of its friends.

Kennebec is not to be out done in the cause of liberty by any other county. Put a peg there.

Will the friends in Winslow and China see that notices of the meetings of the Association in those towns are extensively notified—in town and out of town. Milton Clark is written to. Look out for great meetings, and invite all the people.

#### HENRY CLAY AND THE SABBATH.

While on his late visit to New Orleans, the papers of that city say he was received "ON THE SABBATH DAY, BY THE MILITARY, WITH FLAUNTING BANNERS, SOUNDING TRUMPETS AND BEATING OF DRUMS," and was escorted through the streets at the time of religious service.

It is also stated by the papers that he started on that tour on the Sabbath day.

The friends of that holy day must beware, lest after praying and laboring for its sanctity, they do not vote it out of existence!

#### HENRY CLAY AND TEXAS.

Mr. Clay has been questioned relative to his views on the annexation of Texas by a public meeting in Pittsburgh, but he will not answer. A convention in Kentucky has also questioned him, but no answer has appeared.

The following are the remarks of Mr. Childs relative to his unanswered letter of Nov. 1, 1843.—As the Ken. Journal has recommended that paper strongly, and has often published from it, perhaps the editor may think it proper to publish Mr. Childs' article on this subject, especially so as he has declared the question of annexation to be the most important of any one before the nation. Mr. C. says:

"Shall northern men whether whigs or democrats, be guilty of the ineffable assuinity of permitting any man to come into the presidential chair UNCOMMITTED in this business. It cannot be disguised that there is a determination in the candidates to keep dark on this vital subject. They can be very voluble, and protest that they are 'incapable of concealment' in respect to the penalties paid on iron pots, but they cannot find tongue to utter a syllable upon a question involving the fate of an empire, the preservation of peace, or the opening of war. They dare not speak because they apprehend that a word either way will lose them the half of the Union! Will the people allow this game to go on? If they do, they are undone, will deserve to be.

We have endeavored to acquit ourselves of the duty of an American citizen in this behalf. At the request of several friends and associates in the abolition cause, and in obedience to our individual sense of duty, we addressed a respectful application to Mr. Clay, Mr. Van Buren, and Mr. Calhoun; and although three months have elapsed, no answer has been received. We regard Mr. Clay, 'the great compromiser,' betwixt liberty and slavery, as infinitely the most powerful and most dangerous in this matter. Moreover, we were his early, constant, and ardent friend, and supporter, having by the steadiness and singleness of our attachment, carried among those most devoted to him, the cognomen of 'Old Kent,' at the time his star, like the flickering light of Lear, seemed ready to go out for ever. Moreover, we had often communicated with Mr. Clay on public affairs; and we expected the courtesy of a reply. It would seem that silence was found more convenient. We shall see whether the people will permit that silence to continue, and like the simple stork, put their heads into the wolf's mouth, to find out what his sentiments are upon the subject of biting them off.

#### MR. CALHOUN'S GENERALSHIP.

No man can understand a southern politician unless he bear in mind always, that the interest of slavery is supreme in his estimation—that it controls all his policy and conduct. Whatever professions or appearances he may assume, slavery is the leading element of his being, and the usual manner of attaining his object is to wrap up slavery with some national interest, and in the attainment of that secure his own.

Mr. Calhoun and his party at the South are the body guard—the reserve corps of the slave power, ready for any service the exigency may require.—He saw the northern division of the democratic party beginning to falter at the opening of the present congress, proposing to exchange the radicalism of slavery for its whig conservatism,—or Calhounism for Clayism. This, neither his philosophy nor his pride could tolerate. Some bold, decisive measure must be adopted. The presidential question is now the controlling one on the political checker board, and he seizes upon that to restore the allies. He wheels his division out from the party ranks, plants his standard, and says to the party, 'Your success hangs on my support—that support you cannot have without a prompt return to your servile duty. I abandon you—and at the same time indicates that his favor may be restored.

The sagacious policy is having the designed effect. The gag rule lingers, and will not probably be repealed. Those presses of the party which lately spoke out distinctly against it are silent, and others are supporting the slave power with still greater zeal. The democratic papers which took strong ground against Texas are generally hushed, and the proclamation is sent forth that Mr. Calhoun is not implacable—that his support may yet be depended on—and magnanimity! will lead him yet to go for Van Buren, the plain English of which is that the party may be again restored to its former servility, and the honest people of the country connected with it be tortured into a new compact with slavery.

That party had the opportunity of restoring to the country the lost right of petition, and thereby doing itself imperishable honor; but like its whig predecessor, it will be found morally incapable of such a deed. It is sold to slavery beyond the possibility of redemption.

We speak only of the present indications respecting the gag.

A new Baptist church has been formed at Augusta, of members who seceded from the first church on account of their connection with slavery. Nearly half the active members have already left, as we are informed, and others are continually joining the new church, which worshipped last Sabbath in the Court House, had preaching by neighboring ministers, and expect soon to secure the permanent labors of an anti-slavery minister. We believe the course of the new church, in their circumstances, entirely proper, and hope for them success.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY.

The late meetings in that county were well attended, and were considered by the friends there to be the most useful anti-slavery meeting ever held in the county. The names of 130 men were enrolled during the sessions of the S. A. S. Society, and the many energy and determined purpose indicated were truly encouraging. The cause has a strong hold there, which is every day increasing—and pro-slavery, whether in church or state, have not much longer to live in that county, if the friends of liberty and mercy act with an energy and self-denial which they have authorized all to expect. We carried up some 6 or 8,000 pages of tracts, and these were entirely disposed of and more were wanted.

During the adjournments of the society a Lib-

erty Association was formed which will be of great importance in the county. Its committee are not men to stand still in such a cause. A county tract depository is to be established, town liberty associations are to be formed auxiliary to the county Association, committees appointed in each town to hold meetings, obtain subscribers to papers, distribute tracts, enrol the voters, &c.—Meetings of the Association are to be called forth with in other parts of the county, many of which have never yet been moved on this subject.

A challenge was publicly made and promptly accepted, to exceed Kennebec in the increase of liberty votes this year. We barely suggest to that county that early rising will be somewhat important in this matter.

#### THE GAG.

Since collecting the doings of congress in another place we perceive that we are destined again to disappointment. After the 21st rule was rejected, it was called up again by some process, then laid on the table, from which it cannot be taken without a vote of two thirds, and this of course cannot be gained during the present Congress.

In 1841 the rule was rescinded, and we rejoiced in the belief that the gag was dead; but for partisan purposes it was again revived. Now the democrats have lost the permanent honor they might have secured, by abandoning the ground which they long maintained, because John C. Calhoun has them all by the nose. Such are these parties, both of them.

#### THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

Measures are in operation by which Joshua Leavitt and J. W. Alden of Boston, propose to publish a Daily Liberty Paper, with the above title. The publication is to be commenced as soon as 500 subscribers are obtained. Price \$5.00 a year. It is to be a complete business paper, and we hope that many in Maine, who wish for a Boston daily paper, will at once subscribe for that.—It is an excellent and highly necessary plan.

The conduct of the Massachusetts Senators in regard to the resolves for amending the constitution, has been brought before the Legislature, and after unsuccessful attempts to hush the subject, it was referred to a committee. That is right, but the legislature is more inconsistent than those Senators.

#### THE LEGISLATURE.

Nothing of importance has been done the past week. The question whether to proceed with the valuation, or give it up on account of great defects in the returns, has been much debated.—The acceptance of the money due the state from the United States is a standing theme. The committee on anti-slavery petitions have reported, but we have not yet seen the report.

We have received, by the politeness of friends, several bills now before the legislature, but have not time to examine them.

#### A LITTLE UNFAIR.

Mr. Dumont of this town, hired several voters to come to the polls last fall and vote for Mr. Severance, but some of them do not get their pay.—This is certainly unfair, and Mr. Dumont, Mr. Severance, or somebody else, ought to pay those men the stipulated sum.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY LIBERTY CONVENTION.

A Convention of those favorable to the Liberty Party was held at Bloomfield, Feb. 23, 1844, when Hon. Drummond Farnsworth was called to the chair, and E. J. Peet was chosen Secretary.

The object of the convention was stated to be the formation of a County Liberty Association, and Messrs. May, Bowen and Coburn were appointed to present a Constitution.

Messrs. Willey, Dinsmore, Bicknell, Morrill and Hutchings, were chosen a committee to prepare resolutions. Adjourned to 2 P. M.

Afternoon.—Judge Farnsworth in the chair.—Prayer by Eld. Nickerson. The committee on Constitution reported and their report was unanimously adopted. Messrs. Bowen, Bicknell and B. E. Cayford were chosen to nominate a standing committee of the Association, who reported the following, and their report was adopted.

W. W. Dinsmore, Norridgewock; W. P. Morrill, Skowhegan; Joseph Philbrick, Bloomfield; Otis Richardson, Jr. Mercer; Rufus Bixby, Norridgewock; Samuel Hartwell, St. Albans; James Hutchings, New Portland; Artemas Bigelow, Bloomfield; William McKethnie, Norridgewock. 80 names were affixed to the Constitution. The Resolutions elicited a very interesting discussion in which many participated, after which they were unanimously adopted, and the Association adjourned. Attest.

E. J. PEET, Secy.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we will use all fair and honorable means, relying on God for success to attach as many names of Liberty voters as possible to the above constitution before the next election.

Resolved that slavery "blends itself intimately with the whole political action of the country, determines its parties, decides important measures of government, is a brand of discord, a fountain of bitter strife, and whilst it lasts, will never suffer us to become one people" unless it blots out our moral sentiments, and put us upon a level with the slaves—or what is worse, below the level of even slaveholders themselves.

Resolved, That the nomination of Henry Clay and Martin Van Buren for the presidency of the United States, is an outrage upon the moral sentiments and welfare of the people, and the people of Somerset County owe it to themselves, their children, and their countrymen in chains, to forbid that the flags of these candidates should ever wave in triumph over them.

Resolved, That we heartily respond to the nomination of JAMES G. BIRNEY and THOMAS MORRIS for the presidency and vice presidency of the United States, and of JAMES APPLETON for Governor of Maine, by pledging them our united and warm support, as the worthy representatives of Liberty before a servile and slavery cursed nation.

#### SOMERSET COUNTY LIBERTY ASSOCIATION.

There is but one proper and effectual mode, by which the overthrow of slavery can be accomplished, and that is by LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY; and this so far as MY SUFFRAGE can go, shall not be WANTING.—WASHINGTON.

WE, whose names are subscribed, adopting heartily, the above resolution of the Father of his country; do hereby unite ourselves with the Liberty Party, and agree to form an Association under the following

#### CONSTITUTION.

Art. 1.—The name of this Association shall be the "Somerset County Liberty Association," and any resident of the county, may become a member by subscribing to this Constitution.

Art. 2.—Our objects shall be the concentration of our moral and political power for the destruction of slavery in our country and the better accomplishment of this, to elect honest and capable men, and then, to fill the various offices of profit and trust within the gift of the people.

Art. 3.—The Standing Officers of this Association shall be a County Central Committee of nine, who shall hold their office for the term of one year, and until their successors shall be chosen in their stead; and that they have power to fill any vacancies which may occur in their body. The duties of said Committee shall be to enrol the Liberty voters of the county, call meetings of the Association whenever they shall deem it expedient, to correspond with Town Committees; to procure Lecturers to meet applications from Towns; to provide a de



tricts, and severally assigned to the several members of the Central Committee, that they may hold immediate correspondence with prominent Liberty men of their respective districts, and request them to effect forthwith the organization of their respective towns.

6. That the towns shall be classed and assigned as follows:—  
1st District to R. G. Lincoln of Hallowell:—viz: Leeds, Monmouth, Winthrop and Litchfield.  
2d District to Wm. R. Prescott of Hallowell:—viz: Hallowell, Gardiner, Pittston and Greene.  
3d District to Horace Waters of Augusta:—viz: Augusta, Windsor and Belgrade.  
4th District to G. A. Blake of Augusta:—viz: Readfield, Wayne and China.

5th District to Dr. D. Baldwin of Mt. Vernon:—viz: Mt. Vernon, Fayette, Vienna and Rome.  
6th District to Eusebius Heald of Waterville:—viz: Waterville, Dearborn, Clinton and Sidney.  
7th District to Otis Hawes of Vassalboro:—viz: Vassalboro, Winslow and Albion.

8. That the Chairman of the "Central Committee," be requested to correspond with Alvin Stewart of Utica, N. Y., Rev. Mr. Gannett, of Troy, N. Y., Rev. Joshua Leavitt and H. B. Stanton, Esq., of Boston, to ascertain if either or all of those gentlemen can be induced to visit this country some time during the spring or summer, to lead among us the cause of the crushed slave.

9. To procure from ten to twenty individuals as soon as they can be found, qualified for the purpose, to visit each town and school district, to distribute tracts, to hold district meetings, and to talk to the people, laying before them the sin and iniquity of American Slavery, and thus bring the "one man power" to bear directly upon this cause.

10. To establish a General Tract Depository at the Anti-Slavery Room in Hallowell, where all towns can procure their tracts for distribution.  
R. G. LINCOLN, Chairman.

## CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS.

Official canvass of the votes for Members of Congress—third trial.

### FIFTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

Whole number of ballots,	3879
Benj. White, had	1446
Ebenezer Hutchinson,	968
Jesse Smart,	693
Henry McCrillis,	202
Alfred Johnson,	397
John True,	169
Scattering,	74
Total,	3879

The vote of the town of Prospect was rejected, the return not being signed by the Selectmen, as such.

### SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Whole number of votes,	6692
Necessary to a choice,	3347
Shepard Carey had	3586
Thomas Robinson,	3222
All others,	184

Of course there is no choice in either District.

Bloomfield, Jan. 1st 1844.

To Horace Waters, Esq.

My Dear Sir:—Agreeing to your request in the Circular addressed to E. Coburn Esq. an Association has been organized in this Town on the plan proposed in your communication the names of the officers of the Society are as follows, Doct. James Brown President, Joseph Emery the first Recording Secretary, Des. John Kimball Treasurer, Joseph Kimball Corresponding Secretary.—As the result of our labors we send you the sum of \$100 by A. Coburn Esq. our representative in the Legislature of this State we wish you to send the tracts as soon as possible directed to Doctor James Bowen.

Yours with respect,

JOSEPH KIMBALL.

## CONGRESS.

Washington, Saturday, Feb. 21.

The Senate was not in session to-day.

The House have been engaged with the question of rules during the entire day—considerable interest having been elicited by an attempt finally to dispose of the question and decide upon the continuance or non-continuance of the 21st rule.

Mr. Dromgoole withdrew the motion, so long under discussion, to recommit Mr. Adams' report of rules, and moved to amend the same by substituting for them, except the first thirteen, a set of rules which he had prepared by modification of the rules of the House. The 21st rule is included, slightly modified, providing for the exclusion of all memorials, petitions or other papers, praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia or any State or Territory or for the interference of Congress in any way with the transfer of slaves from or to any Territory of the United States in which slavery is authorized by law.

Mr. Holmes. He thought it was time for action, and he called upon all—Northern "Democrats" or Southern Whigs—to come out and show their hands. The South would that the right of petition extend, but it ceased when it became a crime.—He wanted the question brought to an issue. It was nothing more than whether the Abolitionists, like the *amis des noirs* (the friends of the blacks) in Paris with Brissot at their head, (pointing to Mr. Adams), should make the South a Continental Hayti. He renewed the demand for the previous question.

Mr. Steenrod, the hour having nearly expired, moved to suspend the rules during the day for this subject; carried: Yeas 143, Nays 36. He then moved to lay the whole subject on the table. A call of the House was had, and after closing the doors and receiving excuses—seven only being absent and unexcused—was suspended. The House then refused to lay on the table: Nays 112, Yeas 82.

The question was taken on seconding the demand for the previous question and lost, (the Whigs almost without exception voting therefor)—Yeas 69, Nays 90.

The motion to postpone was also lost: Yeas 88, Nays 102.

Mr. Cave Johnson then moved as a substitute for the report and amendment, a resolution to suspend the Rules of the last Congress except the 25th (known as the 21st) and in lieu thereof a Rule to receive and immediately lay on the table without debate Abolition petitions.

Unwillingness seemed to be manifest on all sides of the House to postpone. Mr. Schenck offered brief remarks, in which he declared himself decidedly opposed to the 21st rule in any form—its tendency being to create abolitionists.

After a good deal of confusion and excitement, the House adjourned—leaving the question *in statu quo*, viz. the pending business during the morning hour.

## THE GAG FINALLY REJECTED!!

Washington Tuesday, Feb. 27.  
In the House of Representatives, to day, the debate upon the 21st rule has finally been terminated; and after a heavy day's work at voting and an obstinate defence of the famous rule, it is at length rejected! to the great consternation and chagrin of the Southern members.

He question once more coming up this morning, Mr. Cave Johnson's substitute amendment pending, providing for the re-adoption of the rules of the last Congress, except the 21st, and in lieu thereof a provision for the reception and immediate laying upon the table, without debate, of Abolition petitions:

Mr. Johnson made an earnest appeal to the "Democracy," despairing as he did of the adop-

tion of the 21st rule, to come up and vote for his substitute as more practicable and better calculated to the speedy disposal of this matter and the expedition of the business of the House than either of the other preceding propositions.

Mr. Hale moved the previous question, and was unrelenting in insisting upon it, notwithstanding the urgent appeals of Mr. Cingman and others, for an opportunity to speak in vindication of themselves. The previous question was seconded—90 to 74; and the main question was ordered: Yeas 150, Nays 24.

Mr. Belser moved to lay the whole subject on the table. Rejected: Yeas 90, Nays 98.

On motion of Mr. Brodhead, the rules were suspended to dispose of the subject.

Mr. A. V. Brown renewed the motion to lay on the table. Again rejected: Yeas 90, Nays 94.

Mr. Cave Johnson's amendment, (given above,) after many points of order and much delay and excitement, was rejected: Yeas 35, Nays 143, many of the Southern members voting against it, in hopes of Mr. Dromgoole's amendment to carry the 21st rule.

The question now recurring on Mr. Dromgoole's amendment to Mr. Adams' report, proposing to substitute for all except 13 of Mr. Adams' a code of rules he had prepared (including the 21st in a modified form and that empowering the majority at any time at their pleasure to suspend the rules, to go into Committee of the Whole on the Union or to pass a resolution to terminate debate therein, and excluding the hour rule, &c.)

Mr. Schenck called a division of the question so as to vote on the two rules above specified separately.

Mr. Belser again moved to lay the whole subject on the table. Yeas 78, Nays 107.

Mr. Dromgoole's amendment, with the exception of the two rules mentioned, was then adopted: Yeas 84, Nays 73.

The trying question was then taken and the 21st rule was rejected by the large majority of twenty votes: Yeas 86, Nays 106.

Mr. Boyd, despairing depicted in his countenance, said he would make one more effort for the preservation of the rule, and moved to lay the whole subject on the table. Rejected—Yeas 83, Nays 99.

Washington, Monday, Feb. 26.

The House of Representatives have been occupied during the day with the reception of resolutions without debate.

Mr. Pratt of New York introduced a bill amendatory of the Naturalization Laws (dispensing with the present two year's notice, so as to effect naturalization in five years, as at present, but without notice.) Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A few Executive communications were laid upon the table—among which was a message from the President, advising appropriations for the construction of several ships of war of the larger class on the principle of the Princeton (of the success of which he speaks highly) for the Gulf of Mexico; and for the construction of Naval depots on the Western waters, &c. &c. Referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Hamilton, the use of the Hall was granted to the Congressional Temperance society for Thursday next.

Mr. Holmes offered a resolution declaring the right of the South to the enjoyment of their slave property, unimpaired by Federal action; the rejection by Congress of Abolition petitions an infraction of the spirit of the Constitution and an interference with the rights of the States, &c.—Mr. Cave Johnson moved to lay on the table; rejected: Yeas 63, Nays 103.

The Previous Question was seconded; but finding themselves brought to a vote, under pretence of affording opportunity of modification of the resolution, the second was reconsidered, and Mr. Hamilton giving notice of debate, the subject was laid over.

Mr. J. Campbell of South Carolina now brought forward the Baltimore resolutions of the same nature, (which he received from Mr. Belser of Ala.) the several divisions of which were adopted under the same vote as follows:

The first proposition declaring that justice as well as sound policy forbids the Federal Government to foster any branch of industry at the expense of another, or to cherish the interests of one to the injury of those of another; viz. Messrs. Adams, Grinnell, Winthrop and Severance.

The 2nd, that every citizen of our common country has a right to demand an equality of rights and privileges, and to complete and ample protection of person and property from domestic violence or foreign aggression, unanimously. Yeas 171, Nays 0.

The 3d, that Congress under the Constitution has no right to interfere with or control the domestic institutions of the several States, and that each State is the sole and proper judge of everything pertaining to its own affairs not prohibited by the Constitution; Yeas 151, to Messrs. Adams, and Vance, of Ohio, nays.

The 4th, that "all efforts of the Abolitionists or others to induce Congress to interfere with the question of Slavery or to take ineffectual steps in relation thereto, are calculated to lead to the most alarming and dangerous consequences, having an inevitable tendency to endanger the happiness of the people and the permanency of any friend of our political institutions." Yeas 123, to Nays, Messrs. Adams, Abbott, Baker, Dickey, Giddings, Grinnell, Hardin, Harper, Hudson, Hunt, Irvin, P. B. Johnson, D. P. King, of Massachusetts, Rockwell of Mass. McClelland, McLivaine, Rogers, Severance, A. Smith, Tilden, Vance, Vinton and Winthrop—23.

Messrs. Rhett, Payne and Black, of Geo. asked to be excused from voting on the last division alleging that the declaration that Congress ought not to interfere with the domestic institutions of the States was a virtual acknowledgment of congressional right to pass upon the question, and of consequence to pass upon the other way if they saw fit.

The House refused to excuse them, but Mr. P. if the other two gentlemen, refused to vote, as did also Mr. Barnard and some others.

Mr. Hale offered a resolution declaring that the National Military Academy at West Point ought to be abolished, and instructing the Military Committee to report a bill for this purpose, and to apply the money now appropriated to its support, for the diffusion of military science among the States and Territories. Mr. Holmes moved to lay it on the table. Carried: Yeas 96, Nays 70.

A resolution of Mr. Reding to amend the joint rule so as to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Capitol, or on the adjacent grounds, after the rejection of Yeas 36, Nays 131, of a motion of Mr. Hammett to lie on the table, was carried. Its provision for the removal of the restaurants from the Capitol, was lost; Yeas 80, Nays 90.

A resolution of Mr. Adams inquiring of the Secretary of State as to any, and if so what gross errors occurred in the returns of the 6th census, &c. was adopted.

A SLAVE SHOT.—The Plaquemine, La. Gazette, states, that on the night of Sunday, the 17th, a GIRL belonging to Mr. Joseph Schlatter, was SHOT, while endeavoring to escape from a man who ordered her to stop. She was in company with three or four other runaways. The person who shot her, first tried to stop her, by firing at her with fine shot, which did not injure her materially, and as she still continued to run he BROUGHT HER DOWN WITH A CHARGE OF BUCK-SHOT!!

A LIBERTY MAN AT LAST!—The Liberty men of the district composed of Exeter and Garland, elected to the Legislature last Monday, by a majority of four votes over both the whig and the democratic candidates. This election shows what perseverance in a good cause can accomplish.—Bangor Gazette.

DEATH OF NICHOLAS BIDDLE!—The Philadelphia papers announce the death of Nicholas Biddle, late President of the Bank of the U. States. He died about 4 o'clock on Tuesday morning, of the cholera, at his residence at Philadelphia. He was dropped, at his residence at Philadelphia, he was surrounded by the immediate members of his family, and Dr. P. who one of his physicians, was also present. He died calmly, and in possession of all his mental faculties.

IMPORTANT ISSUE. The New York Herald states that in the conclusion of Mr. McDuffie's speech in the Senate on Monday, 29th ult. on the tariff, the following issue was presented, viz:—An issue between the separation of the States in-

to three republics on the one side—or, the abandonment of the protective system and the abolition agitation on the floor of Congress!

## HORRIBLE CALAMITY!

### EXPLOSION OF THE PRINCETON'S GREAT FAIXHAN GUN!

Death of Mr. Uphur, Secretary of State—of Mr. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy—of Commodore Kennon—of Virgil Maxcy—of Mr. Gardner of N. York, &c. &c.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Times, gives the following particular account of the heart-rending calamity.

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY EVE., }  
Feb. 25, 1844, 10 P. M. }  
The City is in mourning: another melancholy event has befallen the country. Having been an eye witness to the scene, I will as minutely as possible, give an account of it.

Capt. Stockton, of the steamer Princeton, invited some 3 or 400 ladies and gentlemen, including the President and his family, some Senators and members of the House, and a large circle of his special friends, to take an excursion with him down the Potomac this day, and witness the beauty and movement of his noble vessel, and the discharge of his immense gun. All the invitations were most eagerly accepted—and at about 1 o'clock the company were safely put on board the Princeton, from a small steamer which took them from the wharf.

The day was clear and pleasant, and there were as many ladies on board as gentlemen, and every thing promised a delightful excursion. After a cruise of 21 guns fired the great gun, the big gun was put in readiness for the firing of a ball, weighing 230 lbs. The ladies were all "piped on deck," and obtained prominent places to see the discharge. The word "fire" was given and all eyes immediately beheld the motion of the ball upon the water, giving some half dozen bounds and going a distance of about two miles before it finally sunk.

The experiment was in every respect successful, and all were delighted.

The party then adjourned to the cabin, and after the ladies had feasted fully from the abundance so liberally provided for them by the noble Captain, the gentlemen took possession of the table. Capt. S. being at the head—the President upon his right—the members of the Cabinet (with the single exception of Mr. Spencer who was not on board) arranged according to their official station upon the left—Senators Benton and Woodbury, Mr. Catlin, and other members of Congress, following on the right of the President. Toasts and champagne sparkled together, and all were as merry and happy as could be.

In the midst of this—and as the vessel was nearing home, the Captain concluded to have another fire with his big gun—and it was there that occurred the fatal event which I will now detail.

The gun was ranged—some of the gentlemen whom the Capt. most desired should see the operation, were specially invited up to witness it. The gun was fired—and the breech exploded! killing with it instantly, Mr. Uphur, Secretary of State; Mr. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy; VIRGIL MAXCY, Esq., of New York city; Com. KENNON, Chief of the Bureau of Construction; and Mr. GARDNER, of New York—seriously injuring Capt. Stockton, also one of the midshipmen, and three or four of the hands of the ship; and more or less injuring some half a dozen others of the ship's crew. Senator Benton was standing on the right of Capt. Stockton, as were also Mr. Tyson, of Philadelphia, Col. Strickland of the same city, and others.

Mr. Benton immediately after the explosion complained and suffered much from the effects of the explosion, but I did not see, when I left the boat, that he was so much hurt. Mr. Tyson had one of the pieces of the gun pass directly through his hat.

The gentlemen killed were all standing upon the leftward side of the gun, nearly in a row, and when the gun burst the pieces went in their direction—and killed them instantly—not a groan was heard to escape their lips. The President, but a moment previous to the discharge, fortunately left its vicinity. As the smoke cleared away Capt. Stockton was discovered with his hair and face scorched, and his dress covered with powder; he jumped with one spring to the top of his gun, and exclaimed, "My God!—wouldst thou have me die near you?"

He was immediately handed down, and conveyed to the Cabin, and a more heart-broken man I never saw. He is to be pitied for the calamity though he is in no wise to blame, for it has resulted as I will now state, from causes over which he could have no control.

The public should bear in mind that the gun had been discharged several times, how many I am unable to say; and especially three times during the day. When the accident happened she was only charged as usual, but on examining the break and the pieces, the only fresh break that could be found was on one part, a place as big as one hand, covered was on one part, a place as big as one hand, and another part, I will exhibit to you one of the pieces, and will leave it in the Counting Room of the Times for public inspection.

It would be impossible for me to describe to you the distressing scenes that followed the accident, for I am entirely inadequate to the task. The living will suffer more than the dead. Mrs. Gilmer, immediately heard the awful fate of her husband and "would not be comforted." She groaned dreadfully and presented a striking picture of a heart struck desolate. Miss Uphur was also on board—but her sufferings I did not witness, as she remained in the cabin. Judge Uphur has a sudden and three or four children.

Mr. Uphur just before the discharge and remarked that "if he was secretary of war, he did not like the noise, and would therefore move a little out of the way," and just as he moved the gun exploded.

One of Senator Woodbury's daughters, (the eldest I think) was standing so near to the person killed, that her dress was completely splattered over with blood. Her escape was truly miraculous, as was also that of others in the immediate vicinity of the gun.

When the accident happened I was in the cabin listening to a patriotic song from one of the company; as he was singing the words of the song, the gun was fired, and said one of the gentlemen, "there goes the Big Gun in honor of the name, let us also give three cheers to it!"—but the cheering hardly commenced before the fatal event was made known, and all were as silent as death. But I have not more room to mention the thousand incidents that occurred, and are connected with the event—but must reserve them for another opportunity.

When the company left the Princeton, which was about 6 o'clock, everything was being done to take care of the wounded and dead. The President, Mr. Wickliffe, Mr. Wilkins and others remained on board—and will probably come up to the city late this evening.

## The Great Calamity at Washington.

We collect from papers received by this Tuesday morning's mail, the following melancholy incidents connected with the late heart-rending catastrophe on board the Princeton.

The lower part of the gun from the trunnions the breech was blown off, and one half section of it laying on Mr. Uphur. It took two sailors to remove it. Mr. Uphur was badly cut over the eye, and his legs and arms and others were literally torn from his body—he expired in about 3 minutes.

Governor Gilmer of Virginia was found equally badly injured. He had evidently been struck by the section of the gun before it reached Mr. Uphur.

Mr. Maxcy had his arms and one of his legs cut off, the pieces of flesh hanging to the mutilated limbs cold and bloodless, in a manner truly frightful. He died instantly.

Mr. Gardner, of New York, and Commodore Kennon, lingered about half an hour—but they did not seem for a single moment to be conscious of the fatal fate, and expired almost without a groan. The flags of the Union were placed over the dead bodies as their winding sheets.

The most heart-rending scene, however, was that which followed. The two daughters of Mr. Gardner, of New York, were both on board, and lamented the death of their father, while Mrs. Gilmer, from whom they in vain attempted to keep the dreadful news of the death of her husband, presented truly a spectacle fit to be depicted by a tragedian.

There she sat on deck, with hair dishevelled, pale as death, struggling with her feelings, and with the dignity of a woman. Her lips quivering, her eyes fixed and up-turned, without a tear, only the corners a little moist, sighing: "Oh! certainly not!—Mr. Gilmer cannot be dead! Who would dare to injure him! Yes, oh Lord, have mercy upon me! Oh Lord, have mercy on him!" And then still more apparently calm and seeming to be collected, with the furies tearing her heart within, "I beseech ye, gentlemen, to tell me where my husband is?"

Impossible!—Impossible!—and he, can he, can he dead?—Impossible!"

Here Mr. Saunders, Rives, of Virginia, drew near. "Come near, Mr. Rives," she said, in a soft whisper which resembled Ophelia's madness "tell me where my husband is—tell me whether he is dead. Now certainly, Mr. Rives, this is impossible—is it not so?" Mr. Rives stood speechless, the tears trickling down his cheeks, "I tell you, Mr. Rives, it is impossible," she almost screamed; and then again moderating her voice, "Now, Mr. Rives, tell his wife whether he is dead."

Here several ladies exclaimed, "O God, grant that she may be able to cry. It would certainly relieve her some. If not, she must die of a broken heart!"

Captain Stockton was brought up to the city on Thursday, and is at Gadsby's. He lies in a feverish and debilitated condition, and is laboring under the keenest agony of spirit. He was as near or nearer to the gun than any one, having been engaged in exhibiting the operation of the gun in a heavy sea, &c. The moment the smoke cleared away so as to show any thing to the emotion, Captain Stockton was seen standing on the gun, his hands clasped and in deep and silent emotion, looking down upon the wreck. At that moment he knew nothing of the slaughter that had been committed. He did not know that a single person had been hurt. It was soon reported to him that the two Secretaries and others had been killed. In great agony he exclaimed, "Would to God that I had been the victim!" or to that effect. He was much burnt and bruised.

The public mind at Washington appears to have been completely shocked by this calamity. Cards sent out for visiting parties for the following evening were withdrawn. A public town election ordered by the Mayor to be held, was postponed from Friday of that week to Wednesday of the next. Public meetings called for the evening were adjourned and the greatest excitement prevailed. The list of narrow escapes is wonderful. Mr. Tyson of the Post Office Department had his hat taken from his head and without the least injury to his person. Some of the ladies had their dresses bespattered with blood and the remains of the mangled limbs of dying and dead. A Miss Summerville was injured.

This is a great national calamity. The like of it has, it is believed, never before occurred under any government on earth.

Her lips quivering, her eyes fixed and up-turned, without a tear, only the corners a little moist, sighing: "Oh! certainly not!—Mr. Gilmer cannot be dead! Who would dare to injure him! Yes, oh Lord, have mercy upon me! Oh Lord, have mercy on him!" And then still more apparently calm and seeming to be collected, with the furies tearing her heart within, "I beseech ye, gentlemen, to tell me where my husband is?"

Impossible!—Impossible!—and he, can he, can he dead?—Impossible!"

Here Mr. Saunders, Rives, of Virginia, drew near. "Come near, Mr. Rives," she said, in a soft whisper which resembled Ophelia's madness "tell me where my husband is—tell me whether he is dead. Now certainly, Mr. Rives, this is impossible—is it not so?" Mr. Rives stood speechless, the tears trickling down his cheeks, "I tell you, Mr. Rives, it is impossible," she almost screamed; and then again moderating her voice, "Now, Mr. Rives, tell his wife whether he is dead."

Here several ladies exclaimed, "O God, grant that she may be able to cry. It would certainly relieve her some. If not, she must die of a broken heart!"

Captain Stockton was brought up to the city on Thursday, and is at Gadsby's. He lies in a feverish and debilitated condition, and is laboring under the keenest agony of spirit. He was as near or nearer to the gun than any one, having been engaged in exhibiting the operation of the gun in a heavy sea, &c. The moment the smoke cleared away so as to show any thing to the emotion, Captain Stockton was seen standing on the gun, his hands clasped and in deep and silent emotion, looking down upon the wreck. At that moment he knew nothing of the slaughter that had been committed. He did not know that a single person had been hurt. It was soon reported to him that the two Secretaries and others had been killed. In great agony he exclaimed, "Would to God that I had been the victim!" or to that effect. He was much burnt and bruised.

The public mind at Washington appears to have been completely shocked by this calamity. Cards sent out for visiting parties for the following evening were withdrawn. A public town election ordered by the Mayor to be held, was postponed from Friday of that week to Wednesday of the next. Public meetings called for the evening were adjourned and the greatest excitement prevailed. The list of narrow escapes is wonderful. Mr. Tyson of the Post Office Department had his hat taken from his head and without the least injury to his person. Some of the ladies had their dresses bespattered with blood and the remains of the mangled limbs of dying and dead. A Miss Summerville was injured.

This is a great national calamity. The like of it has, it is believed, never before occurred under any government on earth.

## MOORING CEREMONIES AT WASHINGTON.

The two Houses of Congress, on Thursday, were filled to overflowing, and the four galleries presented a scene of solemnity and sadness such as the recent deplorable and heart-rending calamity, which stands almost without a parallel in the records of human affliction, could be expected to produce. The prayer of Rev. Mr. Tuttle was deeply impressive and affecting. The reading of the Journal followed, but, before it was finished, Mr. Saunders moved that it be dispensed with, and the motion prevailed. A message from the President, communicating to Congress the explosion on board the Princeton, and the following resolutions, offered by Mr. Hopkins of Virginia, were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That this House be heard, with deep sorrow, of the dreadful catastrophe which occurred yesterday on board the U. S. Ship Princeton, when many valuable lives were lost, and by which, amongst others, the Hon. A. P. Uphur, Secretary of State, and the Hon. Thomas W. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy, met a sudden and awful death.

Resolved, That this House will manifest its respect for the memory of the late distinguished Secretaries of State and Navy, by attending their funerals to-day.

Resolved, As a further mark of respect to the deceased, and to manifest our sense of this most melancholy and afflicting dispensation of Divine Providence, that this House will transact no legislative business, until the obsequies of the deceased shall have been performed.

Resolved, That this House wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to join with a Committee of the Senate to make preparations for the funeral.

Resolved, That this House adjourn to meet again on Monday next.

In the Senate, Rev. Mr. Tuttle, the chaplain, made a most affecting and earnest prayer, which filled many eyes with tears, and touched every heart. His allusion to the deplorable event of the day was most touching, and his warning to the living—"Be ye also ready," was an appeal that vibrated upon every ear.

Resolutions were then adopted similar to those adopted in the House of Representatives.

On Saturday morning, at 11 o'clock, the funeral was to take place. On that day all the shops were to be closed, and all business suspended; the volunteer companies and citizens of the District, and neighboring cities, were invited to attend the funeral. The funeral service would take place at the President's house, and the procession would proceed to the Congressional Burial ground.

The President has appointed Hon. John Nelson, Attorney General of the U. S., to discharge the duties of Secretary of State ad interim. Com. Lewis Warrington, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance and Yards, is appointed to discharge the duties of Secretary of the Navy.

It is thought at Washington, that Mr. Webster will be earnestly invited to take charge of the State Department, at least pending the negotiation with the British Ministers upon the Oregon question. We hear that Mr. Packenham has hired Mr. Webster's house for three years.

It was also thought that Mr. Saunders, M. C. of North Carolina, will be invited to preside over the Navy Department. It will be some days, of course, before those vacant places are filled.

A few minutes after midnight on Tuesday last, at Bethany, Conn., the house of Dr. Spencer was discovered to be on fire. At this time the kitchen was nearly consumed, and Dr. Spencer and his wife had barely time to escape, not being even able to save a particle of clothing except such as was on them. Mrs. S. seized the two youngest children and brought them from the burning house. The Doctor appeared to lose all presence of mind from the moment when he discovered the fire, and even rushed so near the flames that the little clothing he had on actually took fire. His wife endeavored to recall him to a sense of the situation, when he came to himself, and the children were heard screaming "dear!" Mrs. S. (who had been so much concerned at the excited condition of her husband that she appeared to have forgotten everything else,) rushed into the house to save her other two children. But the attempt was unavailing as the house was then all wrapt in flames.—She returned and told her husband that they were doubtless dead. He rushed into the house. In fifteen minutes after he entered, the roof fell in, and was entirely consumed.

A portion of the remains of Dr. S. and one of the children have been dug out of the burning ruins. There is nothing of each except the trunk. The head and limbs being wholly consumed. No vestige of the other child was discovered. The children were of the age of 10 and 8 years respectively. The two that were saved were younger.—The children burnt were sleeping in the room in the second story with a young man named Stevens, who saved himself by leaping from the window. The fire is supposed to have originated from hot ashes. Mrs. Spencer is in a state bordering on distraction.

Dr. Spencer was a native of Naugatuck, at which place he has resided since his graduation at Yale College, until within two years. He was in comfortable circumstances, and about forty years, and for some years has been celebrated as one of the most skillful physicians of New Haven county.

U. S. SUPREME COURT.—Judge McLean delivered on Wednesday morning the opinion of the Court in the case of Gen. Gaines and wife. The opinion is, in the main, favorable to the claims of Mrs. Gaines, as heir at law to Daniel Clarke. The point upon which the court was divided, was whether the estate of said Clarke, was to be divided equally between the one absolutely, and two others with a qualification that requires the cause to go again before the Circuit Court, but which will not, probably, affect the result. This decision makes the General and his lady, the lord and mistress of an immense property; some say fifteen millions of dollars.

U. S. SUPREME COURT.—Judge McLean delivered on Wednesday morning the opinion of the Court in the case of Gen. Gaines and wife. The opinion is, in the main, favorable to the claims of Mrs. Gaines, as heir at law to Daniel Clarke. The point upon which the court was divided, was whether the estate of said Clarke, was to be divided equally between the one absolutely, and two others with a qualification that requires the cause to go again before the Circuit Court, but which will not, probably, affect the result. This decision makes the General and his lady, the lord and mistress of an immense property; some say fifteen millions of dollars.

U. S. SUPREME COURT.—Judge McLean delivered on Wednesday morning the



TERMS. — Two Dollars per annum in advance.